

D. PRE-DESIGN TRAIL USER SURVEYS

NORWOTTUCK RAIL TRAIL REHABILITATION Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Welcome! This survey was created to inform the design process for the Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation. The questions are written to gather information from people who use the trail to help the design team understand how they use the trail and how to make improvements. This survey will be open for comments from the time of the Public Information Meeting on October 29th to December 31st, 2008.

To get started, please enter your email address:

*Please read our [privacy policy](#)

☐

Please add me to your email list for future notifications on this project.

1. In which town do you live?

2. What is your age range?

3a. Are you a student? ☐ yes ☐ no

3b. If yes, what is your current grade level?

4. If you are a student, which school do you attend?

5. How often do you use the rail trail?

If you selected "I've never used the trail", please skip to questions 16-18 below.

6. When do you typically use the rail trail? Select ALL that apply.

a. Time of year:

- ☐ winter
☐ spring
☐ summer
☐ fall

b. Days of the week:

- ☐ Monday
☐ Tuesday
☐ Wednesday
☐ Thursday
☐ Friday
☐ Saturday
☐ Sunday

c. Times of day:

- ☐ morning
☐ afternoon
☐ evening

7a. Do you bring other people to the rail trail? ☐ yes ☐ no

7b. If yes, how many people are usually in your group?

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7c. If yes, who do you usually bring to the rail trail?

<input type="checkbox"/> my family	<input type="checkbox"/> my friend
<input type="checkbox"/> an exercise class	<input type="checkbox"/> students
<input type="checkbox"/> members of a club or group	<input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="text"/>

7d. What are their ages? Select ALL that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> 0-6	<input type="checkbox"/> 22-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 61-70
<input type="checkbox"/> 7-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 31-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 70+
<input type="checkbox"/> 13-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 41-50	
<input type="checkbox"/> 18-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 51-60	

8a. How do you usually get to the rail trail?

8b. If you drive to the trail, where do you park? Select ALL that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Elwell State Park, Damon Road parking lot, Northampton
<input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Farms Mall, South Maple St., Hadley
<input type="checkbox"/> Mill Lane, near Southeast Street, Amherst
<input type="checkbox"/> Station Road parking lot, Amherst
<input type="checkbox"/> Warren Wright Road parking lot, Belchertown
<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/>

9. What are your main entry points on the rail trail?

10. For what purposes do you use the rail trail? Select ALL that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> access to conservation lands
<input type="checkbox"/> watching birds & wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> going to the movies
<input type="checkbox"/> fitness	<input type="checkbox"/> dog-walking
<input type="checkbox"/> commuting to school	<input type="checkbox"/> shopping
<input type="checkbox"/> commuting to work	<input type="checkbox"/> other

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11. What are your main activities on the rail trail? Select ALL that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> cycling	<input type="checkbox"/> rollerblade/skate	<input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> push a baby carriage	<input type="checkbox"/> use a wheelchair	
<input type="checkbox"/> snowshoeing	<input type="checkbox"/> skateboard	
<input type="checkbox"/> walk	<input type="checkbox"/> X-country skiing	

12. If you ride a bike, what type do you use? Select ALL that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> 2-wheeled bicycle	<input type="checkbox"/> bicycle with child extension such as trail-a-bike or tag-along
<input type="checkbox"/> recumbent bicycle	<input type="checkbox"/> bicycle with utility-type trailer
<input type="checkbox"/> hand-cycle	<input type="checkbox"/> bicycle pulling a child trailer
<input type="checkbox"/> tri-cycle	<input type="checkbox"/> recumbent tri-cycle
<input type="checkbox"/> duet wheelchair tandem	<input type="checkbox"/> tandem bicycle
<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/>	

13. Do you exercise more because you use this rail trail?

☒ yes ☐ no

14a. Are you aware of DCR's Universal Accessibility Programs on this rail trail?

☒ yes ☐ no

14b. If yes, do you participate in their cycling programs on this rail trail?

☒ yes ☐ no

15a. If you use the rail trail for bicycling, do you also bicycle on the road?

☒ yes ☐ no

15b. If not, why?


16a. Are you aware of other multi-use trails in the area? ☒ yes ☐ no

16b. If yes, which ones?

16c. If yes, how often do you use them in comparison to the Norwottuck Rail Trail?

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17. What do you like about the Norwottuck Rail Trail?

A rectangular text input field with a light gray border. On the right side, there are three small square buttons stacked vertically: a top button with an upward-pointing triangle, a middle button with a downward-pointing triangle, and a bottom button with a rightward-pointing triangle. On the left side, there are two small square buttons: a left button with a leftward-pointing triangle and a right button with a rightward-pointing triangle.

18. What would you like to see improved?

A rectangular text input field with a light gray border. On the right side, there are three small square buttons stacked vertically: a top button with an upward-pointing triangle, a middle button with a downward-pointing triangle, and a bottom button with a rightward-pointing triangle. On the left side, there are two small square buttons: a left button with a leftward-pointing triangle and a right button with a rightward-pointing triangle.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey!

Submit

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Response: 1

Sent: Saturday, November 08, 2008 10:28 AM

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In which town do you live: Hadley
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: once a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall
Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday
afternoon
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, my friend,
What are Their Ages: 13-17 41-50
How do you get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where do you Park: Mountain farms mall
Main Entry Points: S. Maple St Hadley
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, commuting to work,
watch birds & wildlife, access to
conservation lands,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, walk, snowshoeing,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise more because of trail: no
Aware of DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in UAP Programs: yes
Use Bicycle on the road: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trails: yes
Which Ones: Canalside trail, Northampton bike
Path
Compare their use with this trail: less often

Like About This Trail: everything

Improved:

Bike lanes on town roads to make riding to the trail safer. Improved
width of the trail to 10 foot wide. Restoration of the bird blind.
Places to sit and picnic on the open space near S. Maple St.

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Response: 2

Sent: Sunday, November 09, 2008 9:46 PM

In which town do you live: Belchertown
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall,
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Afternoon, evening
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, visitors
What are Their Ages: 7-12 41-50 51-60
How do you get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where do you park: Warren Wright Road parking lot
Main Entry Points: Maple St, S. East St, Damon Rd,
Warren Wright
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, commuting to work,
errands
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, on
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
Exercise more because of trail: yes
Aware of DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in UAP Programs: no
Use Bicycle on the road: yes
Why Not:
Aware of other Bike Trails: yes
Which Ones: Northampton Rail Trail,
Belchertown Land Trust bought
gravel trail but I haven't been on
it.
Compare their use with this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

Improved:

1. SURFACE!!!! Especially "root heaves". I will not ride when wet because a flat tire is guaranteed.
2. I have many other comments.

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Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 3

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 7:50 AM

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In which town do you live: Other
What is your age range: 31-40
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall,
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 2
Who do you bring to the Rail Trail: my family
What are their Ages: 7-12
How do you get to the Rail Trail: drive
Where do you park: Elwell State Park
Main Entry Point: Damon Road
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation,
Bringing my son to school
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
Exercise more because of trail: yes
Aware of DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle on the road: yes
Why Not:
Aware of other Bike Trails: yes
Which Ones: Manhan trail,
the "Look Park" bike trail,
the trail in Pittsfield area
Compare their use with this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

Nice and long, no traffic, gets us across to Hadley to go to school,
shop without using a car

Improved:

Wider, center line marked, better surface

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Response: 4

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 8:31 AM

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In which town do you live: Amherst
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: every day
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 3
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, my friend,
What are Their Ages: 0-6 13-17 31-40 41-50
How to Get to the Rail Trail: walk
Where You Park: Station road park,
Main Entry Point: KC trail - Amherst half mile from
Station road.
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, dog walking,
watch birds & wildlife, access to
conservation lands,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, walk, X-country ski
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs:
Use Bicycle on the road: no
Why Not: safety concerns
Aware Other Bike Trail: no
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail:

Natural beauty, safety, access to Amherst downtown.

Improved:

Elimination of the Beaver. These incredibly destructive animals are living without predators and are out of control. At a minimum they should be culled regularly. They ruin the landscape, destroy the shade and generally make the trail less pleasant.

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Response: 5

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 9:51 AM

In which town do you live: Other
What is your age range: 51-60
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Morning, afternoon,
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 4
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family,
What are Their Ages: 0-6 7-12 51-60
How to Get to the Rail Trail:
Where You Park: Amherst College or ride from home
Main Entry Point: Amherst farmers market,
Southeast St
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, commuting to
work, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
Bicycle with child extension
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Easthampton, Turners Greenfield
Compare for this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

Ease of use, shopping facilities, commuting ability

Improved:

Less tree roots, banks taken care of, some cutting needed, better
crossing at mall area - very dangerous there

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Response: 6

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 10:08 AM

In which town do you live:	Northampton
What is your age range:	31-40
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall Saturday, Sunday Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	4
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my family, my friend,
What are Their Ages:	0-6 7-12 22-30 31-40 41-50
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	drive
Where You Park:	Elwell state park,
Main Entry Point:	
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation, fitness,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling, rollerblade skate, walk
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Northampton Bike Path
Compare for this Trail:	more often

Like About This Trail:

The scenery, length, amenities available along the way, easy to get to, the river.

Improved:

The paving material, would love to have it widened, but understand that may not be possible. Maybe widened in select areas where it is possible.

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Response: 7

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 12:47 PM

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In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 22-30
Are you a student: yes
Current Grade Level: graduate college
School Attend: UMass Amherst
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Morning, evening

Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, Colleague (and fellow
bike commuter)
What are Their Ages: 22-30 31-40
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Swift Way Connector (Amherst);
Northampton Extension at Damon Road
(originating entry point is
actually the Northampton Rail Trail
at Prospect Ave)

Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, commuting to
work, watch birds & wildlife, go to
movies, shopping, commuting to
school, access to conservation
lands

Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Northampton RT, Norwottuck
Extension, Swift Way/UMass Connector (all on my commute, so I use them
as often); Manhan RT (less often)
Compare for this Trail: no answer

Like About This Trail:

1. As a birder, I very much enjoy the wildlife.
2. This is the only exercise I get, so I appreciate how long the trail is.
3. The route is safer, less strenuous, calmer, and more direct than riding on the alternative roads. I particularly notice the car exhaust when I ride on roads these days.
4. I now do my shopping and run other errands by bike, so I appreciate the access it provides to local stores.
5. I really enjoy stopping at Trailside Bikes and Sofia's Praises. These are a significant asset to the trail.

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6. I now commute year-round and have studded tires for riding the trail in the winter and spring.

7. I very much like that the trail is multi-use. I have no problem slowing down for other traffic, and I enjoy the opportunity to see others outside enjoying their surroundings. This community atmosphere that the trail provides is another asset. I recognize regular users of the rail-trail around town -- there is now a small community of regular rail-trail users.

8. I am very pleased that I no longer have to use Rt 9 to cross under I-91.

9. I frequently use the drinking fountain provided by the car dealership.

Improved:

Obvious improvements:

1. To facilitate the level of use that the trail sees, it should be wider.

2. The root bumps are a problem. I meet cyclists, stroller-walkers, and bicyclists all the time who tell me they stopped using the trail because of the bumps.

3. The glass is a problem. I averaged 2-3 flats per week before I bought highly puncture-resistant tires. I no longer get flats, but the glass still manages to slice up the tires. I've met a few cyclists who say they stopped riding the trail due to flat tires.

Other improvements:

1. Some motorists don't seem to notice the signal at the Damon Road crossing and will drive through while people cross -- oblivious to the red light. Motorists on Damon Rd are usually congested and in a hurry. Moreover, signal-controlled pedestrian crossings are rare, and they lack some of the visual cues motorists usually associate with intersections. Some additional visual cues could be useful here. (Be creative?) 2. This is all that comes to mind. If you achieve the main objectives of a wider, smoother trail that lasts for many years, I will be very pleased.

Other comments:

1. If construction costs overrun or there are other funding issues, I hope that during the design phase, those enhancements that are of critical importance will be prioritized and completed and not left unfinished. For example, realigning the Rt 9 tunnel could turn out during the construction phase to be prohibitively expensive and starve the other, more important (in my opinion) project enhancements of proper funding. Please develop a construction plan with contingencies that is resilient to these sorts of unexpected costs.

2. I've heard a lot of skepticism that the design phase will be completed on time. (I hope that "Fall 2009" is a realistic date.) Many would be very pleasantly surprised if the design phase were completed on-time or earlier!

3. FYI: In the spring, Eastern Phoebe's nest atop the lights in the tunnel under Rt 9 and in the culvert under Spruce Hill Rd. They are very cute -- look for them!

Thanks for taking the time to collect this survey data. I hope that the responses are useful and give you a representative sample of the typical rail trail user.

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Response: 8

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 4:33 PM

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In which town do you live: Amherst
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Morning, afternoon, evening,
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 3
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family,
What are Their Ages: 7-12
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: behind Amherst College tennis
courts and many other points
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, watch birds &
wildlife, shopping, access to
conservation lands
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, X-country ski
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Manhan trail in Easthampton,
up around Greenfield,
Millers/Turners Falls
Compare for this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

I love that I can ride to Northampton, do my shopping or go the other way out to the beaver ponds - and even bring my kids with me - without having to worry about cars!

Improved:

If it can't be widened, everyone should KEEP RIGHT (and teach their kids to do so) and be aware of traffic coming from behind. Also, I'd like to see more access points & bike lanes around the malls to promote cycling. If people saw bike lanes, right-of-way signs, and more bike racks they may begin to get the message that cycling is a viable mode of transportation.

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Response: 9

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 6:26 PM

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In which town do you live:	Other
What is your age range:	61-70
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Afternoon
Bring Other People:	no
How Many People:	
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	
What are Their Ages:	
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	
Main Entry Point:	Woodmont Road
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling,
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Northampton Bikeway, Manhan Rail Trial + others further away
Compare for this Trail:	less often

Like About This Trail:

Everything except its width, root problems, & the glass!!

Improved:

Width & root damage control. A yellow center line throughout would improve safety. Better access to Hampshire Mall along So. Maple St. in Hadley.

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Response: 10

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 6:40 PM

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In which town do you live: Amherst
What is your age range: 31-40
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: every day
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Morning, afternoon, evening
Bring Other People: no
How Many People:
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:
What are Their Ages:
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Hazel St. (off Northampton Rd)
and all points west
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, commuting to work,
shopping, access to conservation
lands
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: no
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: I hear there's one being built
between Northampton and Easthampton, and I also ran into one in
Turner's Falls quite by accident.
Compare for this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

I bike everywhere -- I don't have a car. So it lets me get to
Northampton (where I work) without playing chicken with cars on Route
9.

Improved:

I would like the path to be plowed in the winter, so that I do not have
to play chicken with cars AND snowbanks on route 9. I understand that
this is a multi-use trail, and that people ski on this trail, but there
are lots of places to ski (relatively speaking), and there are likely
many people who walk on the trail for recreation who have no better
place to walk in the winter (when roads and sidewalks are often much
more dangerous). I hear that there are "safety concerns" about this,
but I would guess that it's a lot less safe to have people using
alternate routes (e.g. route 9) to bike between Northampton and
Amherst. I'm also wondering whether some of your funding is federal
traffic-congestion-reduction money. I have not researched it, but if
that is the case, what is the logic in making the trail inaccessible

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for meaningful transportation for several months out of the year? And, yes, I understand that there are environmental issues -- how to control ice without affecting wetlands -- but I wonder...the Northampton trail also abuts wetlands, and _that_ trail somehow gets plowed anyway. So I wonder.

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Response: 11

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 9:47 PM

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In which town do you live: Hadley
What is your age range: 51-60
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday,
Morning, afternoon, evening
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 3
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, my friend,
members of a club or group
What are Their Ages: 13-17 18-21 22-30 31-40 41-
50 51-60 61-70
How to Get to the Rail Trail: drive
Where You Park: Trailside Bicycles
Main Entry Point: Whole Foods, Elwell/Damon Rd
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, commuting to work,
shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, walk
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: yes
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Manhan, Northampton, Greenfield
Compare for this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

Beautiful route that serves for fun AND a direct commuter route out of car traffic

Improved:

Pavement surface, middle line painted on, solar lights, street crossings named

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Response: 12

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 10:35 PM

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In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 31-40
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: every day
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday
Morning, evening
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family
What are Their Ages: 0-6 31-40 61-70
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Woodmont, UMass spur
Purposes of the Rail Trail: fitness, commuting to work,
go to movies, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
recumbent bicycle,
bicycle with utility type trailer,
bicycle pull child trailer
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: no
Why Not: safety concerns
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Manhan, Northampton
Compare for this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

No cars. Provides bike access to rte 9 businesses

Improved:

Remove roots. Widen lanes. Light at South Maple. Plant possibly some evergreen trees to block Route 9 traffic in late fall/early spring.

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Response: 13

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 11:06 PM

In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 61-70
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall,
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday,
morning, afternoon,
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my friend,
What are Their Ages: 41-50 51-60 61-70
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Woodmont Ave
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, watch birds
& wildlife, shopping, access to conservation lands,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, walk,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
Exercise: no
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Manhan RT and Northampton RT (King
St to Look Pk-- which I use more than the Damon Rd to Belchertown RT
Compare for this Trail: more often

Like About This Trail:

The scene from the bridge over the Conn. River, views of agricultural land, the feeling of being in nature along with the convenience of easy access to stores and restaurants, the bike shop and ice cream shop, access to the Hadley dike and and and.....

Improved:

If possible, lower humps on the bridge for smoother ride.
More air and water stations. Signage for names of trees and/or a brochure to point out interesting plant and bird species to be seen along the trail.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 14

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 11:11 PM

In which town do you live:	Amherst
What is your age range:	51-60
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, morning, afternoon, evening,
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	4
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my family, my friend,
What are Their Ages:	0-6 31-40
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	Station road park,
Main Entry Point:	Station Rd.
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation, fitness, watch birds & wildlife, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling, walk, run
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Noho and Easthampton
Compare for this Trail:	less often

Like About This Trail:

Ah - that glorious cool tunnel of green in the warm weather! Its an incredible blessing, a wondrous gift to people young and old! So beautiful, so much wildlife to see. I'm in heaven seeing a Great Blue Heron take off in flight. So safe, free of the stinky dangerous cars and trucks. People smile and greet each other, we stop to chat. Please pass along my thanks to all the people who made it happen!

Improved:

It needs to be 10 or more feet wide. It is not safe to pass young bikers who are weaving around, it's really scary! The surface, obviously, needs to be repaved. A bathroom at Station Rd. would be nice but evil forces burned it down some years ago, as well as the sweet bird watching house, so sad.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 15

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 9:27 AM

* add email for future notifications

In which town do you live: Belchertown
What is your age range: 61-70
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall,
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday,
morning, afternoon,
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 5
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family,
What are Their Ages: 0-6 7-12 61-70
How to Get to the Rail Trail: drive
Where You Park: Elwell state park, Station road
park, Warren wright road park,
Main Entry Point: Warren Wright Road
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, watch birds & wildlife,
access to conservation lands,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle, tandem bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: no
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail:

Safe place to take grandchildren.
Wildlife viewing and habitat.
Rest areas.
Crosswalks.

Improved:

Obviously no glass.
Wider lanes.
More places to sit and view nature

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 16

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 11:16 AM

In which town do you live: Other
What is your age range: 51-60
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 7+
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: members of a club or group
What are Their Ages: 22-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 61-70
How to Get to the Rail Trail: drive
Where You Park: Elwell state park, Mountain farms mall,
Main Entry Point: Damon Road
Purposes of the Rail Trail: fitness,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, rollerblade skate,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: no
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail: Scenic

Improved:

Glass remove from asphalt, Trail Widened. Roots removed.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 17

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 11:19 AM

In which town do you live: Hadley
What is your age range: 22-30
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: every day
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall,
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
morning, afternoon, evening
Bring Other People: no
How Many People: 1
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:
What are Their Ages:
How to Get to the Rail Trail: walk
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Middle St, East St., Rt 116
Purposes of the Rail Trail: fitness, commuting to work, as an
alternative to riding bike on the road to travel between towns in
general
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, walk, running
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: no
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail:

It makes the towns that it passes through feel closer together, more of a community. It recognizes the importance of pedestrians and is a progressive idea. I look forward to its intersection with the East Coast Greenway and its increased usage.

Improved:

I would like some sort of lighting, for safety purposes, because I and others I know have found ourselves on the trail at dawn or dusk, or in hard weather conditions and have experienced difficulty with visibility. As a female who uses the trail by myself more frequently than not, having some lighting (motion detected, solar?) would make me feel more comfortable. I have not used the trail recently in the winter, so am not sure if shoveling or plowing occurs, but if so it would a further asset to the community.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 18

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 11:52 AM

In which town do you live: Other
What is your age range: 31-40
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: once a month or less
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
Sunday,
afternoon, evening,
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 3
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, my friend, students,
members of a club or group,
What are Their Ages: 13-17 31-40
How to Get to the Rail Trail: drive
Where You Park: Elwell state park,
Main Entry Point: Damon road, stop for ice cream,
turn around come back
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, jog
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: easthampton and agawam have them
but I have not used them
Compare for this Trail: not at all

Like About This Trail:

Shaded, off the street, scenic, pretty

mproved:

It can get very crowded at times; it would be great to widen it.
Parking at Damon Road fills up fast. Rail Trails are great; connect it
to other trails too.

Mike

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 19

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 12:25 PM

In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: once a month or less
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall,
Monday, Saturday, Sunday
afternoon
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 4
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, my friend,
What are Their Ages: 7-12 13-17 41-50 51-60
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Elwell State Park
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, shopping,
riding to Amherst
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, other
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: no
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs:
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Northampton bike path from
Northampton to Florence
Compare for this Trail: more often

Like About This Trail:

It goes to Amherst, plus the bridge is lovely.

Improved:

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 20

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 12:45 PM

In which town do you live:	Northampton
What is your age range:	51-60
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	once a month or less
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Evening
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my family,
What are Their Ages:	51-60
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	
Main Entry Point:	Damon Rd
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation, fitness, watch birds & wildlife
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling, other: birding
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	no
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Northampton, Pittsfield/Lanesboro
Compare for this Trail:	more often

Like About This Trail:

conservation land access, close to home, length

Improved:

Extend the trail, better education on trail etiquette,
Metal plates on bridges can be slippery when wet

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 21

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 1:18 PM

* add email for future notifications

In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 31-40
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
Sunday,
Morning, afternoon, evening
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, members of a club or
group,
What are Their Ages: 7-12 31-40 41-50 51-60
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Damon Road, Northampton
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, shopping,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
recumbent bicycle,
bicycle with utility type trailer,
recumbent tri cycle,
Exercise: no
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Manhan Trail, Northampton bike
paths,
Compare for this Trail: more often

Like About This Trail:

It is not purely recreational; it connects users with shopping centers, universities. Parts of it (mostly east of Amherst) go through beautiful scenic areas.

Improved:

Targeted winter snow clearing - eg. Damon Road to the first cross-street in Hadley. Increased width and pavement quality. Consistent width of bollards that block motor vehicle traffic at access points. The bollards at Station Rd. crossing in Amherst are narrower than all others and too narrow to allow my recumbent tandem tricycle to fit between. I have to drag it around the bollards, through the bushes to pass by.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 22

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 3:25 PM

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In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student: yes
Current Grade Level: graduate college
School Attend: UMass
Use the Rail Trail: every day
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday
Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People: no
How Many People:
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:
What are Their Ages:
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Florence Ctr, UMass connector, near
RR track/King St in Northampton
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, shopping,
commuting to school
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
bicycle with child extension,
bicycle utility type trailer,
bicycle pull child trailer,
bicycle w/trail-a-bike or child
trailer
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Manhan, Noho-Florence
Compare for this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

It gets me where I need to go without much time on roads. And it is scenic

Improved:

Clearing snow!! It's terrible to have to go on Rt 9 when the conditions are bad--the worst time to be on the road.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 23

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 6:42 PM

In which town do you live: Amherst
What is your age range: 31-40
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday,
Afternoon, evening
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my friend,
What are Their Ages: 22-30 31-40 41-50
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: South Pleasant St Amherst, Swift Way
connector, Station Rd Amherst
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: no
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Northampton, Manhan, Montague canal
Compare for this Trail: less often

Like About This Trail:

Great scenery, great route, trailside services, beavers, Connecticut River Bridge.

Improved:

Trail surface, obviously. I think the concerns about glass are overrated - I've never had a flat on the trail, in about 200 miles of trail riding this year. But the root damage and frost heaves and washboard surface are terrible (much better this year in areas that were patched). Riding is truly hazardous as dusk approaches. Widening the trail would be helpful and would help riders coexist better with walkers/skaters. Surface on bridges is bad with many sharp bumps. Road visibility (ability to see approaching cars) is bad at some intersections (East St. in Hadley).

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 24

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 9:24 PM

* add email for future notifications

In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 70+
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall
Saturday, Sunday
Morning, afternoon, evening
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 4
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, my friend,
What are Their Ages: 51-60
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Bicycle path from Florence to
CT River bridge
Purposes of the Rail Trail: go to movieS, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
bicycle utility type trailer
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Florence/Northampton,
Rt 5 -> Easthampton
Compare for this Trail: more often

Like About This Trail:

Excellent link from Northampton to Hadley shopping and Amherst,
avoiding dangerous Rt 9

Improved:

Paving quality, wider trail for easier passing, and most importantly,
better connections to shopping in Hadley, which would make the trail
more useable. AND PLOW IT IN THE WINTER, JUST LIKE THE ROADS!!

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 25

Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2008 6:17 AM

* add email for future notifications

In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a month
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday,
Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 3
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family,
What are Their Ages: 13-17 31-40 41-50
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Elwell State Park
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, commuting to
work, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
bicycle with utility type trailer
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Northampton, Manhan
Compare for this Trail: more often

Like About This Trail:

scenery, connection to Amherst via Hadley, bridge over Connecticut
River, bike/ped crossing of Damon Road.

Improved:

Repave to deal with glass and roots (spot repaving was a big win!) plus
widening wherever feasible, improved crossings near the malls

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 26

Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2008 8:36 AM

In which town do you live: Northampton
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: once a month or less
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People: no
How Many People:
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:
What are Their Ages:
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Elwell State Park,
Maple St Hadley to head South to
Bay Road
Purposes of the Rail Trail: commuting to work
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: no
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs:
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: yes
Which Ones: Manhan trail,
the trail from State Street up to
JFK
Compare for this Trail: no answer

Like About This Trail:

It's a much nicer ride than route 9!

Improved:

Bumpy in parts, doesn't really go where I want (to Hampshire College),
but I don't see how this can be improved...

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 27

Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2008 9:10 AM

* add email for future notifications

In which town do you live:	Northampton
What is your age range:	31-40
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	once a week
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Evening
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my family, my friend,
What are Their Ages:	31-40 41-50
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	Elwell state park,
Main Entry Point:	North St, Northampton (coming from downtown using the new trail)
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation, fitness
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling, other: running
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	no
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	All
Compare for this Trail:	less often

Like About This Trail:

Close to my house. River views.

Improved:

Remove bumps. However, I do think a softer, permeable, more eco-friendly surface is possible. And, it would likely be cheaper to install and maintain than asphalt which will continue to have the tree root problems.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 28

Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2008 4:45 PM

In which town do you live:	Northampton
What is your age range:	51-60
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail:	winter, spring, summer, fall Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday Morning, afternoon, evening
Bring Other People:	no
How Many People:	
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	
What are Their Ages:	
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	
Main Entry Point:	
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	fitness, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Manahan trail Easthampton
Compare for this Trail:	less often

Like About This Trail:

Close to shopping, keeps me off of very busy Rt 9

Improved:

Still has some brutal bumps from roots under the pavement in Hadley, they did excellent job this summer getting some of them

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 29

Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 5:05 PM

In which town do you live:	Other
What is your age range:	31-40
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	once a month or less
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall Friday, Saturday, Sunday Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my family,
What are Their Ages:	0-6 31-40
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	Elwell state park,
Main Entry Point:	Damon road or UMass or Esselon
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP:	no
Participate in Cycling Programs:	
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	no
Which Ones:	
Compare for this Trail:	

Like About This Trail:

No cars, no commercial development, strip malls, etc.

Improved:

Keep strip malls far, far away. Repave rippled section near Amherst College.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 30

Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2008 9:25 PM

In which town do you live: Amherst
What is your age range: 51-60
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: every day
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People:
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my friend,
What are Their Ages: 51-60
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Brickyard trail thru the woods from
Hop Brook and University Drive
connector rsity drive and
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, commuting to
work, watch birds & wildlife, go to
movies, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, walk, X-country ski
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
bicycle with child extension
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs:
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: no
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail:

I love that it goes thru the woods and that it has trees growing so close to the trail. I love riding my bike through the tunnel of green. I would not like to see the trail widened.

Improved:

I would love to see the trail extend into Belchertown and beyond. It would be nice if the bumps between the old KC trail and the Brickyard trail were smoothed out the way the bumps were smoothed out by Amherst College earlier this year. Other than that I think the trail is perfect.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 31

Sent: Friday, November 14, 2008 1:03 AM

In which town do you live?	Northampton
What is your age range?	22-30
Are you a student?	no
Current Grade Level?	
School Attend?	
Use the Rail Trail?	every day
When to Use the Rail Trail?	Winter, spring, summer Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday Afternoon, evening
Bring Other People?	yes
How Many People?	1
Who you bring to the Rail Trail?	my friend, members of a club or group,
What are Their Ages?	22-30
How to Get to the Rail Trail?	bike
Where You Park?	
Main Entry Point?	Damon rd. & whole foods
Purposes of the Rail Trail?	recreation, commuting to work,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail?	cycling
What type of Bike?	2 wheel bicycle, tandem bicycle
Exercise?	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP?	no
Participate in Cycling Programs?	
Use Bicycle?	yes
Why Not?	
Aware Other Bike Trail?	no
Which Ones?	
Compare for this Trail?	

Like About This Trail?

It is a direct, relatively safe route to work.

Improved?

GLASS-PHALT. I am sure you are all aware of this issue, but the glass problem has got to be fixed. I ride this trail literally every day that I work and suffer two to five flat tires per week, if not more. This is an entirely unacceptable problem for bicyclists, as I am sure you are well aware. I can not imagine who came up with the current surface mixture, but they should not be allowed to design bike paths. Seriously. Thank you.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 32

Sent: Friday, November 14, 2008 9:37 AM

In which town do you live:	Northampton
What is your age range:	61-70
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	not applicable
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail:	winter, spring, summer, fall Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	1
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my family,
What are Their Ages:	61-70
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	
Main Entry Point:	Bates St, Northampton.; Middle St Hadley
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation, fitness, commuting to work, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling, walk
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Northampton Bikeway; Manhan; Ashuwillitikook
Compare for this Trail:	less often

Like About This Trail:

No cars therefore safer than going on Rt 9; close to my house; scenic ride or walk

Improved:

Tree roots make the ride bumpy--patching helped but may no last long; glass is a problem; I commute Northampton>>Hampshire College--would be nice to have a connector--Bay Road or south Maple st traffic goes too fast; I support increasing accessibility to the trail; I'm not using Universal access now but may need it in the future.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 33

Sent: Friday, November 14, 2008 5:32 PM

* add email for future notifications

In which town do you live: Other
What is your age range: 41-50
Are you a student:
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: once a month or less
When to Use the Rail Trail: spring, summer, fall,
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
Sunday,
morning, afternoon,
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 3
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family, my friend,
What are Their Ages: 13-17 18-21 22-30 31-40
41-50
How to Get to the Rail Trail:
Where You Park: Elwell state park,
Main Entry Point:
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness,
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, rollerblade skate, walk,
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle,
recumbent bicycle,
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: yes
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: no
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail:

It is in a beautiful area very scenic

Improved:

The conditions of the surface. Trail wider.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 34

Sent: Saturday, November 15, 2008 11:28 AM

In which town do you live:	Amherst
What is your age range:	41-50
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	every day
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Morning, afternoon, evening
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	4
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my family
What are Their Ages:	7-12 41-50
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	
Main Entry Point:	Amherst College and Woodmont Road, Northampton
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation, fitness, commuting to work, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Easthampton
Compare for this Trail:	not at all

Like About This Trail:

Makes bicycle commuting possible. Lovely views. Friendly riders.
Well signed. Light at Damon Road.

Improved:

Eliminate or cover glass. Extend further into Northampton to
Easthampton and into Belchertown.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 35

Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2008 3:04 PM

In which town do you live: Amherst
What is your age range: 61-70
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People: no
How Many People: 1
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: Sometimes ride with family.
Usually commuting to work.
What are Their Ages: 61-70
How to Get to the Rail Trail: bike
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Brickyard Entrance near Station
Ride
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, commuting to
work
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, walk, X-country ski,
snowshoeing
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs:
Use Bicycle: no
Why Not: safety concerns
Aware Other Bike Trail: no
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail:

I like the fact I can use the bike trail for commuting to work. I would not commute by bike if it were not for the bike trail. I don't like to be in traffic. I also like to bike to Northampton for lunch etc.

Improved:

The pavement is in bad condition East of Amherst College. I appreciate the paving that was completed west of the Amherst College. Now I'd like to see the same improvements nearer to where I enter the bike trail. I've heard that money may be spent straightening the tunnel in Hadley. I do not think this is necessary. It would be expensive. There are many more important improvements that could be done - like repaving areas where the pavement is cracked. I would not like to see the trees removed. If possible save the trees and remove the roots.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 36

Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2008 5:28 PM

In which town do you live: Amherst
What is your age range: 61-70
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Afternoon, evening
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 1
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my friend
What are Their Ages: 61-70
How to Get to the Rail Trail: walk
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Brickyard
Purposes of the Rail Trail:
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:
What type of Bike:
Exercise:
Participate in DCR's UAP:
Participate in Cycling Programs:
Use Bicycle:
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail:
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail:

Improved:

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 37

Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2008 1:16 PM

In which town do you live:	Amherst
What is your age range:	51-60
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Sunday Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	1
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my friend,
What are Their Ages:	41-50
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	
Main Entry Point:	So East St, Station Road, Amherst College, Northampton
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	recreation, commuting to work, watch birds & wildlife, go to movies, shopping
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling, walk
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	no
Participate in DCR's UAP:	no
Participate in Cycling Programs:	
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Don't recall names they cross the trail everywhere though
Compare for this Trail:	less often

Like About This Trail:

It let's me get away from automobile traffic when I want to go out.

Improved:

Next time get the glass aggregate ground smaller, I would like to see
access paved, poor sub-drainage in spots and roots cause annoying
heaves

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 38

Sent: Friday, November 28, 2008 10:43 AM

In which town do you live:	Other
What is your age range:	31-40
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	once a month or less
When to Use the Rail Trail:	spring, summer, fall Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday Afternoon, evening
Bring Other People:	yes
How Many People:	2
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	my friend,
What are Their Ages:	31-40
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	bike
Where You Park:	
Main Entry Point:	Northampton bridge/new N'ton section
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	fitness
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	cycling
What type of Bike:	2 wheel bicycle
Exercise:	no
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	no
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	yes
Which Ones:	Easthampton path
Compare for this Trail:	less often

Like About This Trail:

Ability to cross river without using Coolidge Bridge

Improved:

Path is narrow and glass in pavement causes lots of flat tires.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 39

Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2008 8:06 PM

* add email for future notifications

In which town do you live:	Other
What is your age range:	51-60
Are you a student:	no
Current Grade Level:	
School Attend:	
Use the Rail Trail:	once a week
When to Use the Rail Trail:	winter, spring, summer, fall Friday, Saturday, Sunday Morning, afternoon, evening
Bring Other People:	no
How Many People:	
Who you bring to the Rail Trail:	
What are Their Ages:	
How to Get to the Rail Trail:	drive
Where You Park:	Elwell state park, Mountain farms mall, Station road park, Mountain Farms Mall, South Maple St., Hadley
Main Entry Point:	recreation, fitness, watch birds & wildlife
Purposes of the Rail Trail:	cycling
Main Activities of the Rail Trail:	2 wheel bicycle, hand cycle, recumbent tri cycle, duet wheelchair tandem, tandem bicycle
What type of Bike:	
Exercise:	yes
Participate in DCR's UAP:	yes
Participate in Cycling Programs:	yes
Use Bicycle:	yes
Why Not:	
Aware Other Bike Trail:	no
Which Ones:	
Compare for this Trail:	

Like About This Trail:

Safe street crossings. Gentle grade changes. Separation from motor vehicle traffic.

Improved:

Resurface to cover glass. Remove pavement ridges and bumps.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation
Public Comment Summary - Appendix D: Pre-Design Trail User Survey

Response: 40

Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2008 9:11 AM

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In which town do you live: Amherst
What is your age range: 31-40
Are you a student: no
Current Grade Level:
School Attend:
Use the Rail Trail: 2-3 times a week
When to Use the Rail Trail: winter, spring, summer, fall
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Morning, afternoon
Bring Other People: yes
How Many People: 3
Who you bring to the Rail Trail: my family
What are Their Ages: 0-6 7-12
How to Get to the Rail Trail: walk
Where You Park:
Main Entry Point: Mill Ln @ South East St or
the KC Trail from South East St
Purposes of the Rail Trail: recreation, fitness, commuting to
work, watch birds & wildlife,
access to conservation lands,
walking to and from synagogue
almost every Saturday
Main Activities of the Rail Trail: cycling, walk, push baby carriage,
other:jogging / running
What type of Bike: 2 wheel bicycle
Exercise: yes
Participate in DCR's UAP: no
Participate in Cycling Programs: no
Use Bicycle: yes
Why Not:
Aware Other Bike Trail: no
Which Ones:
Compare for this Trail:

Like About This Trail:

It gets me off the road to a safer place when I'm running before the sun comes up. It's a very peaceful and pleasant way to commute to work.

Improved:

Widen it by a couple feet, if possible.